

PIOCHE WEEKLY RECORD

T. J. OSBORNE, MANAGER.

PIOCHE, LINCOLN CO., NEVADA.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

Important Information Gathered Around the Coast.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

A Summary of Late Events That Are Being Done in Our Busy Section.

S. E. Newby, a San Jose fruit grower, has failed for \$32,947.

Herrings are now being caught in Humboldt bay in large quantities.

Large quantities of sweet potatoes are being shipped from Santa Ana to Arizona.

Assemblyman Ryan has introduced a bill to complete the seawall of San Francisco.

The Great Northern is said to have placed a contract for the construction of 5000 cars.

Santa Ana is agitating an ordinance prohibiting expectation on the sidewalks of that town.

A defense association is being formed by the residents of the Ferris irrigation district to contest the legality of the district.

The Riverside Trustees have opened a register, where the unemployed may register and those wanting help can consult it.

The resolution of the late Board of Supervisors of San Francisco to place the Pethouse on the Alms house tract, is to be rescinded.

No white cornmeal can be purchased either in Visalia or Tulare at present, and there seems to be no corn from which to make it.

No flowers will grow in the town of Jerome, A. T., all vegetation being killed by the noxious fumes from the big smelters located there.

The Health and Police Committee of San Francisco will cut down the drug bills at the hospital by giving the supply to the lowest-priced wholesale dealer.

Mayor Penneyer of Portland, Or., has donated \$1250, half of his first six months' salary, to the City Board of Charities to be expended for the relief of the needy.

A. R. Welton of Colton has received a commission from the Cuban army, and has left for New York. He was a lieutenant in the Redlands Militia Company.

Captain Richard Hoyt, Jr., well known among the steamboat men of the Columbia and Willamette rivers, died in the State Insane Asylum at Salem, Or., a few days ago.

H. M. Gilbert of Geneseo, Ill., who arrived in Tacoma the other day, says forty families from Illinois for whom he is agent will come out in the spring and settle in Yakima county, Wash.

A club in Riverside has taken up the shade-tree proposition in a practical way and suggested to the City Council a plan for carrying out its ideas of street ornamentation. The plan provides for supervision of tree planting by district commissioners.

While working with a plow and scraper on a strip of land in the Randsburg district recently a man is said to have uncovered a ledge of ore that is one-fourth pure gold in spots. The strip is about 400 by 50 feet in extent. This is the most remarkable discovery yet made in that famous mining camp.

Among the bills introduced in the Legislature by Senator Bert is one authorizing the appointment of an interpreter of the Japanese language in criminal proceedings in cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants. The bill carries with it the significant fact of the increase of the Japanese population of San Francisco.

A meeting has been in San Luis Obispo for the purpose of consulting as to the most expedient manner of procuring an appropriation for the erection of a normal school in this city. A draft of a petition to the Legislature was read, showing the necessity for additional school facilities. As soon as further data are obtained they will be passed to Sacramento.

A number of officials of the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad have arrived in Fresno. While there they will try and close up contracts for right of way between Fresno and Hanford. If successful, the construction of the road along this survey will be commenced within two or three weeks. There are about half a dozen property owners along the right of way who are holding out for exorbitant prices.

There will soon be a revival in construction work on the Valley Railroad. This will be on the extension from Fresno, the present southern terminus, to Bakersfield. The right of way has been secured, and preparations are now being made to grade and track the distance of 100 miles or more. In three or four weeks 300 or 400 men will be put to work on the extension, and it is expected to be finished in a little over three months.

The question of iron, lead ores and the metals has been taken up by the Ways and Means Committee. Representative Herman of Oregon has proposed by a duty of 10 cents per pound upon a nickel in order to allow the development of our nickel mines. W. C. Cronmeyer of Pittsburg, a representative of the plate industry, asked for an increase of from one-eighth to one-half cent on various grades and new clause to cover plates below No. 32 wire gauge, which were manufactured here and needed protection. John Jarret of Pittsburg, also a tinplate-maker, says that one of the most important questions to the industry was the drawback feature. Replying to questions he said that the reduction of wages, together with the decreased cost of steel billets, had alone permitted the industry to live under the Wilson law. The workmen had paid for the reduction of the duty. R. T. Smith of Baltimore, representing the Canned Goods Exchange of that city, argued against any increase of duty on tinplates.

mines railroad communication with the outside world.

The Veterans Home Association held a meeting at San Francisco and decided by unanimous vote to turn the institution at Yountville over to the care of the State. This step has been in contemplation for some time; it has, indeed, always been the ultimate intention of the association. It has been precipitated at this time by the action of the Secretary of State, L. Brown, taking issue with Controller Colgan as to the status of the institution with regard to the State. The Controller holds that the home is now a State institution, and entitled to State aid. Secretary Brown holds that it is not a State institution, and therefore not so entitled.

Construction of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad is to be pushed south from Fresno as soon as the necessary rights of way can be obtained. Significant action has been taken by the board of directors of the road. A resolution was passed instructing that condemnation suits be instituted immediately at Fresno, directed against owners of land lying south of that city who have declined to give the new railroad the privilege to cross their property. On behalf of the railroad corporation these suits will be pressed as vigorously as possible. Considering that the report has frequently been circulated that the directors of the new railroad would not extend the road south from Fresno unless the property-owners ceased their obstruction tactics, the resolution passed is an all-important indication of the purpose to construct the road to the southern end of the valley with as little delay as possible.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTES.

The soda men have had quite a warm discussion over proposed tariff changes.

J. A. Banister of Newark, N. J., desires the present rate on leather continued.

The Ways and Means Committee in Washington have heard representatives of the stone industries.

Ex-Mayor Schieren of Brooklyn has filed a paper protesting against any increase in the duty on hides.

The Senate amendments to the law abolishing the death penalty in certain cases have been concurred in.

Congressman Patterson of Tennessee said recently that the builders of the Pacific railroads were not public robbers.

On a motion by Mr. Hoar, the House bill for a uniform bankruptcy law is made a special order for Monday, January 25th.

The Funding Bill has been defeated. The vote on it was 167 against it and 103 for it. Congressman Maguire made a good speech against the bill.

Representative Morse of Massachusetts, on behalf of the jewelry manufacturers of New England has asked an increase in the duty on jewelry.

Representative Walker of Illinois, on behalf of Chicago factories, has asked that asbestos be taken from the free list and made dutiable at 30 per cent.

N. S. Greenoch of Cleveland, on behalf of the manufacturers of coal tar, has asked a small specific duty on this article and a duty on its principal product, pitch, of \$2 per ton. Both articles are now on the free list.

Charles F. Smith of New York, a glove importer, is willing to have 20 per cent added to the present duty on gloves. Specified duties on the basis he recommended, he said, would yield a revenue of about \$2,900,000 annually.

J. S. Smith of Waterbury, Conn., representing the manufacturers of vegetable waxy buttons, before the Senate Ways and Means Committee, asked a specific duty on buttons of 1 cent per line and 11-40 cents per inch gross.

The House has passed several minor bills, including one to permit the officers of the regular Army who served in the volunteer service to wear the uniform of their highest rank on ceremonial occasions, and then took up the Army appropriation bill. Curtis of New York, in charge of the measure, explained that it was the regular bill and contained no new features. It carried \$23,126,344, a reduction of \$153,558 from the bill for the current year. The bill occasioned no debate, and was passed with a few minor verbal amendments.

Harrison's fight before the Ways and Means Committee promises to be hindered somewhat by the action of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, in asking for specific duties on various kinds of coal. Harrison's whole fight was on the elimination of the word "bituminous" from the tariff bill, so that all coals will have an equal standing. He claims that he has already secured support for his contention among Eastern men, and has added materially to his argument by the addition of freight quotations on anthracite coal from the Pennsylvania regions to Massachusetts points, which are shown to be in excess of ocean rates by tramp steamers.

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TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Condensed Telegraphic Reports of Late Events.

BRIEF SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

Budget of News For Easy Digestion—All Parts of the Country Represented—Interesting Items.

Wyoming proposes to increase its revenue by taxing coal mines.

Moody, the revivalist, thinks the Sunday papers should be suppressed.

Five children were drowned a few days ago in a swollen creek in Missouri.

Koek, Dreyfus & Co., wholesale watch dealers in New York, have failed.

Seventy-five applications have been made by civilians for the new offices of steel inspectors of the navy.

The Bankers' Exchange Bank of Minneapolis, which closed its doors a week ago, has resumed business.

The railroad fare from New York to San Francisco for the Christian Endeavor Convention, will be \$75 or less.

A society of women, descendants of the Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam, has just been formed in New York.

Congress wishes the Attorney-General to tell what he can about the suppression of the last great strike in Chicago.

The United States Court of Appeals, at Chicago, has decided that legislation by the old whisky trust cannot be enforced.

J. H. Johnston & Co., dealers in jewelry and silverware in New York, have assigned. Liabilities, \$219,000; assets, \$20,000.

James A. Jordan, an ex-Pension Examiner, paid a fine of \$1000 in Michigan recently as a penalty for defrauding the Government.

A law is to be introduced in the Kansas Legislature to prevent a man holding large tracts of land others offer to buy from him.

A convention representing 1800 coal miners of Massillon, O., have decided that the miners will not accept the 10 cents a ton reduction ordered by the operators.

Officers have begun ejecting people from claims on the lines of the Ponca, Otoe and Missouri and Osage reservations, in accordance with the decision of Secretary of the Interior Francis.

The big five-story brick tobacco factory of the American Tobacco Company, at Danville, Va., has been entirely destroyed by fire, together with contents. Loss, \$150,000 fully insured.

The American Geographical Society has awarded to Civil Engineer Robert E. Peary, U. S. N., for his work in Greenland, the Colburn gold medal. Mr. Peary is the first recipient of the medal, for which funds were provided by the late General George W. Colburn, U. S. A., vice-president of the Geographical Society.

Joseph Bonalager, a half-breed Oseage Indian, announces his intention of bringing suit to recover forty-two acres of land in the heart of Kansas City, now worth between forty and fifty millions of dollars. The land was bought by the Government in 1832 from Collis Montardiere, a French trader, who was the grandfather of the present claimant.

Fire has totally destroyed the packing-house of the Anchor flour-mill, owned by the Pillsbury-Washburn Milling Company, in Minneapolis, Minn. Loss, \$200,000, fully insured. The flames originated in the third story of the building from an unknown cause, and for a time threatened to destroy the entire mill. The fire wall, however, prevented further damage.

John A. Howard, who, with a detachment of the famous Chicago Board of Trade Battery, captured Jefferson Davis at the close of the war, is dead. The funeral was held at his home, 6836 Wentworth avenue, Chicago. Less than forty of the 150 who went with him in 1862 are now alive, and most of them surrounded his bier. Of the 150 who faced the war with him under the Board of Trade call, only seven survived the war, and of those nearly one-half are now dead. Mr. Howard leaves a widow and one son, Louis.

Arrangements have just been completed whereby the well-known author of the Granddames, Old Creole Days, etc., Mr. George W. Cable, is to become the editor of Current Literature. Mr. Cable will have a department in the magazine and will continue his interest in the work which has absorbed his time of recent years during his residence in Northampton, Mass. Under this arrangement the Symposium, a monthly magazine which Mr. Cable started, will be discontinued, and all of the author's time, outside of what is given to imaginative work, will be devoted to this editorship.

Fire recently broke out in the Richmond block, Buffalo, N. Y., and damaged the building and contents to the extent of \$150,000. The building is a five-story structure located at the corner of Seneca and Elliott streets. It is occupied by the clothing firm of Altman & Co. The retail department is on the first floor and the other four floors are used to store surplus stock. Nearly \$200,000 worth of stock is in the building and it was more or less damaged by the fire and water. The insurance on the stock is believed to be \$175,000 and \$180,000. The building is owned by Jewett M. Richmond and is fully insured. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

A. M. Woolson, of the Woolson Spice Company, of Toledo, Ohio, says that from what he had just learned, there will be no trace between the sugar trust and the Arbuckles, and that the two companies will continue to operate independently of each other. Mr. Woolson said that he would not be surprised to see a cessation of hostilities. This was met by denial from New York that any compromise was contemplated.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Two earthquakes occurred recently at Stockholm.

The census of Hongkong, China, is to be taken shortly.

The mail steamer Corcovado has been wrecked in the Straits of Magellan.

H. E. Chang, Chin-Lung, Viceroy of Liang Hu, intends to issue Chinese paper money.

The Turkish reform league has appealed to the people of Europe to depose the Sultan.

Lord Wolsley, commander-in-chief of the British army, has ordered that all officers wear mustaches.

Preparations will soon commence for the diamond jubilee to celebrate the longest reign of Great Britain.

A London Chronicle dispatch from Rome says that Greece has ordered 100,000 rifles from an Austrian firm.

The Lord Mayor's (of London) Indian famine fund has now reached over \$175,000, of which amount William Waldorf Astor gave \$10,000.

A Bombay, India, dispatch to the Daily Mail of London says the plague which is spreading in Poona and is in several of the other towns in the Northwest.

The weather at Hamburg, Germany, is very rough, the mercury registering over 40 degrees of frost. So much ice has formed in the harbor that navigation is impeded.

The number of steerage passengers landed at Ellis island, off the coast of New York, during the year of 1896, was 252,350. There were 99,233 cabin passengers landed at the port of New York during the same period.

The Berlin correspondent of the Standard of London says Germany had declined to accede to Russia's desire that she should persuade Austria to agree to a partition of the Balkans, insuring Russian predominance in the western half of the peninsula.

The heavy Montreal hardware house of Burns & Caverhill, extending from Colborne to Ann streets, on the canal banks, will probably be a total loss from fire. The firm has \$300,000 worth of goods stored in the buildings, insured for two-thirds of the value.

The Berlin Germany, budget committee of the Reichstag has voted the initial grant of 50,000 marks to provide for Germany's participation in the Paris Exposition in 1900. Dr. von Bötticher, the Minister of the Interior, declared that the total asked for this purpose will not exceed 5,000,000 marks.

A short branch of railway is to be constructed at once from Woonsoong to Shanghai, China, and the route from Shanghai to Soochow and Chinkiang has just been surveyed. The road from Chinkiang to Nanking was surveyed last year, and the plans for these lines are in the hands of Viveroy Liu, but the money question forms a barrier in the way of commencing work.

The Turkish Reform League has issued from Brussels an appeal to the people of Europe declaring that the Sultan has placed a massacre to take place during the approaching Ramadan fasts, and imploring the powers to interfere, depose the Sultan and proclaim Shahid Effendi, the brother of the Sultan, and heir presumptive, his successor, with a council of state made up of equal numbers of Moslems, Christians and Europeans.

The Rev. William J. Brown, pastor of Wesley Chapel, in London, has just arrived in this country. He comes here to collect money to restore Wesley's tomb and to complete the restoration of the chapel, which is the shrine of Methodists. England has contributed \$79,000. Mr. Brown will make a tour of the United States and Canada to raise this sum. Mr. Brown preached one Sunday evening at the Metropolitan Temple, Grant's old church.

A correspondent of the North China Daily News says: "China is gradually securing a firm foothold in the peninsula of Corea. A few weeks ago a number of Russian military officers arrived to drill the Korean army. Among these were ten non-commissioned officers (the number to be increased in the near future), who occupy quarters within the inclosure of the new palace. These we believe are to act as a sort of body-guard to the king, who will doubtless soon leave the Russian Legation and occupy the new-built palace in the foreign settlement of the capital. Russians have also received several concessions, one of which is the cutting of timber in the north and Dagolei island, off the east coast of Corea.

Persistent rumors have been in circulation for some time that it is the intention of Don Carlos, the pretender to the throne of Spain, to abdicate his claim in favor of his son, Don Jaime. This action is said to be due to the scandal arising from the recent elopement of Princess Elvira, Don Carlos' third daughter, with a young man, the son of a claimant, who is known to have flourished in the time of the crusades and are surrounded by even earlier traditions.

Importance of Fertilizing. It is almost as important to fertilize thoroughly after the crops begin to bear, as an average crop of prunes takes out of the soil about six pounds of potash, nearly four pounds of phosphate and about one-half pound of nitrogen, or nearly four per cent of the entire crop. One-half of this is potash, which must be returned through the medium of commercial fertilizers rather than by manure, or you cannot raise big prunes. Unimproved and unfertilized orchards do sometimes bear heavy crops, but it is their dying effort; like a chicken with its head off, it does not last long. Small prunes are no credit to the grower and no use to the consumer, and should either be sold to the distillery to make brandy, which they could be put to, or used to fatten hogs, for which purpose they are worth more than the current price of 1 to 1 1/2 cents.

That Vine Disease. The mysterious vine disease whose appearance in Napa county caused so much comment last season still continues to puzzle everybody, says the S. F. Chronicle. It is not believed to be the Anaheim disease, and yet it seems to kill vines and to have no remedy.

FOR THE FARMERS.

Some Interesting News for the Ruralist.

POKEN OF IN THIS COLUMN.

A Few Sensible Hints to Suit the Busy Agriculturist.—Items That May Benefit our Readers.

Lesson Growers. Californians are disposed to speak lightly of their own disposition to praise our great State and the products thereof, but it is doubtful if we really do as much of this kind of self-advertising as we should, says the S. F. Post. There are industries within our borders which offer unequalled opportunities for successful investment, and their proper development is not likely to be secured unless the attention of outside capitalists is directed toward them. These remarks have been suggested by an article in the New York Sun regarding the cultivation of the lemon in the southern portion of the State and the rapid growth of the industry.

The article referred to states that the planting of groves during the next few months is said to be the largest ever known in the United States in any season, nurserymen in that section reporting that they have never had so many orders for February and March delivery of lemon trees as are upon their books at present. A conservative estimate puts the number of lemon trees to be set out this season at 350,000 or 360,000, and this will bring the total number of lemon trees planted in Southern California up to 1,300,000 and the number of acres of lemon orchards to 13,000.

Vice-President Stevenson and E. W. Ewing, United States Minister to the Netherlands, are largely interested in what will be the largest lemon grove in the world, which is to be planted near Colton, and which will comprise 9000 trees. It is a gratifying thought that, notwithstanding the general depression in all kinds of farm and horticultural products in the past two years, the lemon growers of Southern California have made money. With the growth of the industry has come a successful solution of problems which have rendered the business difficult in the past, and the shipper now has no trouble in securing the safe delivery of his crop in the East in good condition.

The Hamburg Exposition. The State Board of Trade has notified H. O. Trowbridge, of Oakland, one of the organizers of the Oakland Exposition, of its unanimous selection as its representative at the Hamburg Horticultural Exposition of 1897. An effort will be made to have Governor Budd appoint Mr. Trowbridge as the Commissioner from this State. This gentleman is acquainted with the conditions of American trade at Hamburg and is confident that the exposition can be made of great service to California.

In a recent interview Mr. Trowbridge said: "This is a most important horticultural exhibit, and it is at such a time that this State has her best opportunity. The wine product, olive oil and everything that the orchard can produce will be represented, and it is in these lines that California makes her boast, and much will be expected of her. There are several reasons why this great opportunity should not be lost. In the first place, Hamburg is the second maritime city of the world. Two years ago Liverpool led, but now it does not do so any longer. Hamburg is the great distributing port for the whole of Northwest Europe. I am intimately acquainted with the situation of trade at that place, and I feel confident that California fruit, especially dried and canned fruits, wines and olive oil, only need to be properly brought before that part of the world to insure a lucrative market. I conscientiously believe that with intelligent introduction not less than one-half of the supply of the product of this State could find a market with Hamburg as a distributing center."

Health in Olives. The California olive crop is becoming more valuable year by year. The man who sets out an olive grove far enough from the seashore to insure steady and abundant crops has advantages which few other horticulturists can claim. First, his product is in good and growing demand; second, his trade is not shared by eastern, Florida or Gulf coast competitors; third, the fruit he does not wish to sell in bulk can be turned into oil and marketed at a fancy price; fourth, the older his orchard gets the more profitable it becomes. An olive tree, which is cared for at all, never seems to deteriorate. Olives are sold today in San Francisco from the orchard which Junipero Serra planted at San Diego in 1769, while palatable fruit is gathered from the gnarled trees that stand in the garden of Gethsemane, which are known to have flourished in the time of the crusades and are surrounded by even earlier traditions.

Quality in Our Society. An English Visitor Finds Classes More Distinct Than in England. We have known Mrs. C. of Fifth avenue for some years, and during her annual visit to London have improved the acquaintance of this charming little lady. She has all the fascination of the attractive American woman. She is surprised and apparently delighted to see us, inquires how long we have been over and thinks it "too bad" that we have not been sooner to call. She is dispensing afternoon tea to a young man whom she introduces. His name is familiar as that of a family of millionaires, and as such is entitled to respect. He is quiet and reserved, bows low to each of us in turn and talks in a subdued voice through his even, white teeth. Only a tone here, an inflection there, betrays the fact that he is an American. His phrases are carefully chosen and are rather superlative—curiously in contrast with the quietness and apathy of his voice and manner. I take him to be a type of the society man.

Mrs. C. is also a type. Her vivacity is contagious and her conversation unflagging. She passes lightly from one subject to another. Everything she says is worth listening to. They are both as different from ordinary middle class Americans as are the English upper classes distinct from the lower. It is a study in human nature that people speaking the same language, living in the same city, influenced by the same feelings, should be, in all things, so utterly dissimilar as those who compose society and those who do not. It is not a question of education.—E. M. Harrington in London Queen.

He Knew a Thing or Two. Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, a former premier of the Australian colony of Victoria, was once made the object of a peculiar embarrassment. A man on a public occasion presented himself to Sir Charles, who had been appointed to some petty government office after a campaign in which there had been questionable electoral practices.

"I suppose," said Sir Charles, "that you are one of my supporters?" "Three of them," answered the man, with a wink that was impossible to misunderstand.—Pearson's Weekly.

From statements in a late number of the Callistogian a possible solution may be in the fact, as stated in the Callistogian, that the disease is confined to vineyards grafted on riparia stock, which has the habit of spreading its roots over the surface. Our dry summers do not supply the required moisture and the vine dies. It is said that the Lenoir, which sends its roots downward, is not affected, and that the same is true of healthy vines of the vinifera varieties. It would seem, however, that this trouble should have prominently developed elsewhere where varieties of the riparia have been used as resistant, and it would also seem strange that the Napa vines should flourish for a number of years and then develop the habit of dying. If this be the trouble, surface irrigation, as the Callistogian suggests, should restore the vines if not too far gone. Evidently we have not yet got all the essential facts, but if it be true, as stated, that riparia roots only are attacked, that is one important step in the diagnosis. If that is settled it may be further possible to determine that some special varieties only of the riparia are exposed to the disease. Of the many riparia varieties, a few only are found to be good resistant stock, and they may also differ among themselves in the ability to resist diseases other than the poison of the phylloxera.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

What they are Doing in the Mines.

ALL BRANCHES ARE REPRESENTED.

There are a class of men who are eminently satisfied and apparently not at all affected by the adverse conditions of business affairs, says the Western Mining World. These are the miners and prospectors who have prospered through the siege of knocking unsuccessfully at the door of Eastern capital, and amid hardships, were forced to utilize their own resources and develop their properties themselves which were industriously hawked about the country, and scorned by those who could well have afforded any possible loss that might accrue from an attempt to demonstrate their failure or success. The scorned miner is now in many cases the fortunate possessor of a dividend payer, and is enjoying the fruits of his numerous personal sacrifices clothed in the garb of regular dividends. At times we are of the opinion that if every mine were forced to depend upon itself, and the enterprise of local capitalists, it would be far better in the end, both for the owner and the community at large. What little money we secure from the East is at an enormous sacrifice, add the profits are quickly absorbed and nothing is left. But whenever a mining proposition fails and there is any Eastern capital identified with it, there is great ado about the loss and the dishonesty of the enterprise, and in fact, everything that can be invented to cry down mining. A great many thousand dollars are wasted in the pursuit of Eastern capital, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred are without results. The most fortunate operators have brought about their success through their own efforts, or with the assistance of local capital. Eastern people will buy a few hundred shares of wildcat stocks, something on which shrewd speculators promise a hundred per cent, but present to these same people a legitimate mining proposition with profits that one would expect in ordinary business and they will from it down. It's too legitimate. It is safe to say that they know but little about mining.

Governor Budd's Message. Speaking of the Horticultural Board, Gov. Budd says: "Since the last session of the Legislature the expenses of the State Board of Horticulture have been minimized. It has been given room free of cost for a quarantine office by the Board of State Harbor Commissioners at San Francisco, and supplied with adequate offices in Sacramento, where it has the additional benefit of the Senate and Assembly chambers of large assemblages. The work is done now as cheaply as possible. It is necessary to sustain its present quarantine headquarters, unless the commission be transferred to the University of California.

"The vast importance of the horticultural interests of this State cannot be overestimated. The enlightened policy of our past horticultural legislation, combined with the advanced intelligence of our people and our incomparable soil and climate have conspired to place us in the proud position of the first horticultural community in the universe. Our resources in the direction of increased acreage and awakened interest have been sufficiently developed. Our future growth must be in the direction of improving the quality of our fruit product and developing markets beyond our State and National limits."

Citrus Growers' Petition. The following petition was presented to the Legislature: To the Honorable Members of the State Legislature, assembled at Sacramento, California: At a mass meeting of the citrus fruit growers of California held in the assembly room of the Chamber of Commerce in the City of Los Angeles, December 26, 1896, it was unanimously resolved to petition your honorable body to memorialize Congress to amend our present tariff laws and increase the import duty on foreign grown citrus fruits.

In all foreign countries where citrus fruits are grown the price of labor is many times less than it is here. It costs us for freight 45 cents per cubic foot to put our fruit in the Eastern markets. The Mediterranean growers can place theirs there at not more than fifteen cents per cubic foot. The difference in freight as between foreign grown citrus fruit and our own is 30 cents per cubic foot and with the difference in cost of production and labor, simple justice demands that we should at least be placed on a footing of equality with the foreign growers.

We, therefore, beg your honorable body to ask Congress to place an import duty on oranges, lemons, limes and grape fruit that will place us upon such an equality.

George Frost, President. A. H. Cargill, Secretary. And 500 other fruit growers.

On the Robinson, or Monte mine, in Granite basin, which is bonded to a Chicago company, they are sinking a 150-foot shaft and making other developments.

At a miners' meeting at the Jumbo mine, Sineds Peak, the Mohave mining district, Kern county, was organized and H. E. Coleman of Mohave elected Recorder.

In a drift on the 900-foot level of the Kennedy mine, Amador county, where they were running toward the Oneida line, they have struck \$15 rock 800 feet from the north shaft.

The Oneida Company, which is working a 1,800-foot shaft at Jackson, Amador county, has also obtained control of the old Bureka mine, which lies between Jackson and Sutter creek. The latter mine has not been worked since the great fire of about twenty years ago. The shaft is very deep and the old workings will have to be drained and cleaned out.

The old Hartville mine, situated near the junction of Webber creek and the South Fork of the American is about to be reopened. The mine is now the property of J. M. Casey of Placerville. The ore, while rich, was very refractory. However tests made by the Cyanide process have been very successful and it is now thought that the ore can, by this process, be worked at a profit.

The Grass Valley Telegraph says: Superintendent Fred Dawson informs us that he has commenced to sink today on the old Hill mine. They will sink and establish a 400-foot level. Last evening several miners were laid off on account of the ore being low grade in the upper level of the old mine. The mill is kept running most of the time, although the vein at present is a rather small one. There are about thirty men employed on day's pay at the Gold Hill, besides tributaries.

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What they are Doing in the Mines.

ALL BRANCHES ARE REPRESENTED.

There are a class of men who are eminently satisfied and apparently not at all affected by the adverse conditions of business affairs, says the Western Mining World. These are the miners and prospectors who have prospered through the siege of knocking unsuccessfully at the door of Eastern capital, and amid hardships, were forced to utilize their own resources and develop their properties themselves which were industriously hawked about the country, and scorned by those who could well have afforded any possible loss that might accrue from an attempt to demonstrate their failure or success. The scorned miner is now in many cases the fortunate possessor of a dividend payer, and is enjoying the fruits of his numerous personal sacrifices clothed in the garb of regular dividends. At times we are of the opinion that if every mine were forced to depend upon itself, and the enterprise of local capitalists, it would be far better in the end, both for the owner and the community at large. What little money we secure from the East is at an enormous sacrifice, add